(c) Various representations received in this connection from time to time were examined and considered o merits. In this regard a writ petition was filed by one Shri V. K Saluja in the Delhi High Court and the same stands admitted.

Condoms to Prisoners

3653. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU; Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recommended to Government that condoms be supplied to prisoners in all the jails in the country to check spread of HIV due to homosexuality; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AF-FAIRS (SHRI *P.* M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) In response to two peti-tions the Delhi High Court had in in May 1994, sought the assistance of the ICMR on the steps that could be taken to prevent spread of HIV infection in jails and on related issues. The recommedations made by an Expert Committee formed by ICMR, in the above connection were communicated to the Delhi high Court through the legal counsel of ICMR.

बिहार में विधान सभा चुनावों के दौरान तैनात किये गये सुरक्षा बलों पर खर्च

3654. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बिहार में विधान सभा चुनावों हेतु कितने अर्द्ध-सैनिक बल, सीमा सुरक्षा बल तथा अन्य सुरक्षा बलों की नियुक्ति की गई ; और

(ख) इन पर कुल कितना खर्च आया और इसे किसने वहन किया ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट) : (क) बिहार में विधान सभा चुनावों के लिये अर्द्ध-सैनिक बलों की कुल 815 कम्पनियां तैनात की गई थीं ।

(ख) चूंकि अर्द्ध-सैनिक बल वापस लौट आये है, अत: उन पर हुये खर्च के वास्तविक ब्यौरे अभी तैयार किये जा रहे हैं । इस प्रकार की तैनातियां पर हुये खर्च को केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा वहन किया जाता है ।

Checking collusion between Punjab terrorists and other extremist outfits

3655. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS b€ pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in "The Hindustan Times" dated the 3rd March, 1995, under the caption, "Punjab militants spreading tentacles"; and

(b) if so, what, steps are being taken to see that the Punjab militants are not able to disturb peace by indulging in subversive activities, in collusion with other extremist outfits in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Government has seen the news item. Government is alive to the situation and keeping a close watch on the activities of Punjab militants. To ensure better coordination and speedy action among the intelligence agencies and Central/State security forces, a Core Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Home Affairs which is holding periodic meetings. In addi-tion, institutionalized mechanism for coordination between the Central and State agencies at various levels in the state has been set up.